(c) whether the proposal envisages allowing employers to contract all types of jobs by amending Contract labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, etc; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO) : (a) and (b) A "Discussion Paper" 'making labour markets flexible' has been prepared for eliciting the views of the stakeholders. It contains certain suggestions to amend the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 and the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, streamlining inspection regime, and use of Information and Communication Technology.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The Paper only mentions a possible list of activities which can be placed in a separate schedule to which the provisions of Section 10 of the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 may not apply. These, *inter-alia*, include sweeping, cleaning, dusting and gardening; collection and disposal of garbage and waste; security, watch and ward; maintenance and repair of plant, machinery and equipments; housekeeping, laundry, canteen and courier; loading and unloading; information technology; specified support services; export oriented units established in Special Economic Zones and units exporting more than 75% or more of their production; and construction and maintenance of buildings, roads and bridges.

Benefits of textile quota

1737. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that International Labour Organization has warned that if India does not accelerate reforms, the benefits of textile quota would remain confined to a limited number of sub-contractors; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are going to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To meet the challenges of globalization labour reforms in the textile sector are one of the crucial pre-requisites for encouraging growth and investment, including Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), exports and for promotion of the employment opportunities. The issue of labour reforms needs consensus among social partners to harmonize the interests of capital and labour. In this connection, views of various stakeholders are being acertained as a consensus building process.